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16 February 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director, NPIC

THROUGH : Chief, Planning, Programming & Budgeting Staff, NPIC

SUBJECT : PI Keys

1. On 18 February, the Department of Defense Keys Committee (DODKEYCOM) will meet at the Naval Reconnaissance Technical Support Center. The agenda will include a statement from both CIA/IAS and NPIC on their respective positions regarding the production of PI Keys.

2. As you know, the Center has a dual responsibility under the National Tasking Plan for producing PI Keys. They are 1) to produce keys for those substantive categories assigned to IEG and, 2) to provide graphic, publication, and dissemination support for all NTP participants involved in basic imagery exploitation (including keys) in the Washington area.

3. By this time, I expect that you have received a memorandum from IEG stating their position on keys. Information that I have been able to pick up in advance of their memo indicates a man-hour cost to IEG of some 25,000 hours to produce keys requested by the DODKEYCOM over the next 4 to 5 years. Assuming that the keys on Communist China now in the hands of PSG for final production is typical in size, the 25,000 hour figure will increase to about 35,000 NPIC man-hours. Of course, we must consider additional NPIC (PSG) man-hour costs for finished production of keys produced by other NTP participants.

4. In the case of IEG, their statement clearly indicates that they have only a limited need for PI keys in their work-a-day situation. IEG personnel unlike other NTP members (mostly military) are more experienced with greater expertise which reduces their need except as an initial PI training device (prior to attendance at the Offutt course) and for some use in expediting first-phase readouts. The IEG workloads in the basic reporting program, direct support efforts, first- and second-phase readouts (with probable increase in this area and etcetera ? have been difficult in maintaining production schedules. To add on the production of keys will further jeopardize scheduling in most categories. 25

5. The impact for the finished production of keys by PSG appears even larger and for a longer period of time. The man-hour resources of the PSG/RD/Publications Branch is assigned at a level of approximately 80% to the Basic Reporting Program. The remainder is assigned to the production of third-phase direct support publications, PIMs, IPIRs, Briefs,

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? | OAKs, Technical Publications, and special publications. The Basic Reporting Program has had its problems as you know. If the FY '71 Basic Report package is successfully programmed, we will still be in a poor situation regarding PI keys. PSG currently plans to start work on the China keys in August because in years past, the first-quarter "basics" started slowly. If we can program a larger level of basic inputs early in the first-quarter '71 to maintain a consistent level over the year, work on the China keys may start at a much reduced level or be delayed indefinitely.

6. Considering the situation in both Groups, it would seem to be poor judgment on the part of the Center to commit itself to scheduled production of PI keys. Also, if the Center (as certainly seems to be the case at the moment) commits itself to only a minimum amount of continuous man-hour support to the keys program, the lapsed time between start and completion of one set of keys would probably exceed one year -- a counterproductive situation.

7. I plan to attend the DODKEYCOM meeting at NRTSC to state (explain?) the NPIC position on "Keys" per your determination -- not so much of NPIC opposition to its assigned responsibility under the NTP but rather, the heavy demands in all areas placed on limited NPIC resources.

? | 8. Since I haven't been able to uncover any reasonable alternatives at this time, I can only recommend that the Center request the DODKEYCOM to consider a moratorium on the production of keys until a clearer evaluation can be made by all concerned. Joint considerations should include 1) complete validation of the need for PI keys, 2) various formats of keys toward a significant reduction in production costs, 3) establish priority levels of PI key production against the Basic Reporting Program (all NTP participants), 4) evaluation of the Center production capabilities against established priorities, and 5) joint recommendation to the COMIREX.

Acting Chief, Requirements Analysis Division
PPBS

Distribution:

Orig. & 1 - Executive Director, NPIC
1 - Chief PPBS
1 - PPBS/RAD

5-21-67 Call from [redacted] this date
who covered 2 items

① Question - What is NPIC doing by way of preparing P1 Keys for use in field exploitation of deployed O (if and when proc & up is down in the field)

Answer - Nothing - However as Dutch indicated to [redacted] NPIC might be able to help if called upon for assistance by Air Force (who wants the job) or DIA Pres Cen (who may want job) -

Note: Dutch has tried to make [redacted] understand the fact that DOD elements (Unified, Specified, Inds, DIA et al) have certain strong feelings/interests in these areas -

② Incidental comment - (a) DOD is pressing on Silver Recovery because of recent U.S. announcement re stopping Silver sales - (b) Citing \$10 million savings in Pacific Theatre

(c) Citing [redacted] getting an additional 3 to 4 yrs life by continued Silver Recovery & replenishment (Use 3/4 old & replenish 1/4) -

Note → Discussed with [redacted] - previous memo to [redacted] with blow by blow 5-22-67 [redacted] is giving CIA (DD S&T) credit on Contract for Silver recovered in processing, and

(Signature)